

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CONAKR 00674 131555Z

47

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-10 /073 W

----- 122217

P R 131400Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0710

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

C O N F I D E N T I A L CONAKRY 0674

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR MR GV

SUBJECT: REPORT OF SEKOU TOURE VISIT TO MAURITANIA

REF: NOUAKCHOTT 0916

1. EMBASSY UNABLE CONFIRM TOURE VISIT TO NOUAKCHOTT REPORTED REFTTEL. WORKING LEVEL GOG OFFICIALS AND COLLEAGUES AT SEVERAL OTHER EMBASSIES STATE THEY HAVE HEARD NOTHING OF TRIP. ONE EASTERN EUROPEAN AMBASSADOR COMMENTED THAT HE HAD HEARD OF PLANS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY TOURE SOON, BUT SUCH PLANS WERE REPORTEDLY DROPPED.

2. IF TOURE DID LEAVE GUINEA, IT WAS FIRST TRAVEL OUTSIDE COUNTRY SINCE FALL OF NKRUMAH EXCEPT FOR TWO BRIEF VISITS TO LIBERIA SEVERAL YEARS AGO. INTERNAL SECURITY SITUATION HERE IS CURRENTLY MORE TENSE THAN USUAL, AND TOURE HAS BEEN RELUCTANT EVEN TO LEAVE HIS PALACE IN RECENT WEEKS.

3. WE SPECULATE THAT IF TOURE MADE TRIP, IT COULD BE RELATED TO QUESTION OF NORMALIZING RELATIONS WITH FRANCE, WHICH COULD BE DONE AT ANYTIME, PARTICULARLY SINCE RELATIONS WERE RENEWED WITH WEST GERMANY ON MAY 9. THIS COULD ALSO ACCOUNT FOR RECENT

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PAGE 02 CONAKR 00674 131555Z

NOUAKCHOTT VISIT OF PRIMIN BEAVOGUI, FOR WHICH THERE SEEMED NO

REAL PURPOSE, AND WHICH ALSO TOOK PLACE WITHOUT ADVANCE NOTICE
IN CONAKRY.

4. WOULD BE INTERESTED IN ANYTHING FURTHER EMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
CAN LEARN TO CONFIRM TOURE VISIT. EMBOFF OBSERVED CORTEGE OF
OFFICIAL VEHICLES RETURNING FROM CONAKRY AIRPORT AT 2000 HOURS
MAY 12. NO SIRENS OR USUAL PRESIDENTIAL ESCORT WERE USED, BUT
THIS MIGHT HAVE BEEN TOURE RETURNING FROM NOUAKCHOTT VISIT.
IN ANY CASE, TOURE SHOULD BE BACK BY MAY 14, (ANNIVERSARY
OF PDG), BECAUSE DIPLOMATIC CORPS JUST SUMMONED ON THAT
DATE FOR "PRESENTATION DES VOEUX."
MACDONALD

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NNN

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